

IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a), please cancel claims 8-9, 19-20, 30-31, and 34 without prejudice, and amend claims 1-2, 10-13, 21-24, and 32-33 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of conducting data compression, comprising:
receiving multiple input data blocks for storage in a data storage subsystem;
applying a predetermined compression process to each of the received data blocks
individually;
evaluating application of the predetermined compression process according to a
predetermined compression; and
if the compression fails to satisfy the predetermined compression criteria, ceasing
compression for subsequent data blocks until satisfaction of a predetermined
skip criteria comprising the expiration of a predetermined time, and then
resuming application of the predetermined compression process.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, [the predetermined compression process being
performed individually on each of the received data blocks,] the evaluating of application of
the predetermined compression process according to a predetermined compression criteria
comprising:
selecting a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined
selection criteria;
for each data block in the selected group, determining a compression ratio between
(1) the data block's size after application of the predetermined compression
process, and (2) the data block's size prior to application of the predetermined
compression process, and

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for the selected group of received data blocks, determining how many data blocks

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have a compression ratio greater than a first threshold; and

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if the number of data blocks having a compression ratio greater than the first

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threshold exceeds a second threshold, the compression satisfying the

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predetermined compression criteria.

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3. (Unchanged) The method of claim 2, the selection of a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data blocks in a fixed window.

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4. (Unchanged) The method of claim 2, the selection of a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data blocks in a running window.

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5. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1, the evaluating of application of the predetermined compression process according to a predetermined compression criteria comprising:

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selecting a group of received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria;

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for all received data blocks in the selected group, determining an aggregate compression ratio between (1) the aggregate size of the data blocks after application of the predetermined compression process, and (2) the aggregate size of the data blocks prior to application of the predetermined compression process, and

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determining whether the aggregate compression ratio exceeds a first threshold; and

12 if the aggregate compression ratio exceeds the first threshold, the compression
13 satisfying the predetermined compression criteria.

1 6. (Unchanged) The method of claim 5, the selection of a group of the received data
2 blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data
3 blocks in a fixed window.

1 7. (Unchanged) The method of claim 5, the selection of a group of the received data
2 blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data
3 blocks in a running window.

✓ Please cancel claims 8 and 9.

1 8. (Amended) The method of claim [9] 1, the cessation of application of the
2 predetermined compression process further comprising:
3 storing uncompressed data items received during cessation of compression.

1 9. (Amended) The method of claim [9] 1, predetermined skip criteria comprising
2 storage of a predetermined number of uncompressed data items.

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12. (Amended) A programmed product comprising signal-bearing media tangibly
embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing
apparatus to perform a method for conducting data compression, said method comprising:
receiving multiple data records for storage in a data storage subsystem;
compressing [at least] each one of the received data records individually;
evaluating the compression performance according to a predetermined compression
criteria; and
if the compression fails to satisfy the predetermined compression criteria,
terminating compression of subsequent data records until satisfaction of a
predetermined skip criteria comprising the expiration of a predetermined
time, and then resuming compression for subsequent data records.

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13. (Amended) The product of claim 12, [the compressing being performed
individually on each of the received data records,] the evaluating of the compression
performance according to a predetermined compression criteria comprising:
selecting a group of the received data records in accordance with a predetermined
selection criteria;
for each data record in the selected group, determining a compression ratio between
(1) the data record's size after compressing, and (2) the data record's size prior
to compressing, and
for the selected group of received data records, determining how many data records
have a compression ratio greater than a first threshold; and
if the number of data records having a compression ratio greater than the first
threshold exceeds a second threshold, the compression performance
satisfying the predetermined compression criteria.

1 14. (Unchanged) The product of claim 13, the selection of a group of the received data
2 records in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data
3 records in a fixed window.

1 15. (Unchanged) The product of claim 13, the selection of a group of the received data
2 records in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprises selection of data
3 records in a running window.

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1 16. (Unchanged) The product of claim 12, the evaluating of compression performance
2 according to a predetermined compression criteria comprising:

3 selecting a group of received data records in accordance with a predetermined
4 selection criteria;

5 for all received data records in the selected group, determining an aggregate
6 compression ratio between (1) the aggregate size of the data records after
7 compressing, and (2) the aggregate size of the data records prior to
8 compressing, and

9 determining whether the aggregate compression ratio exceeds a first threshold; and
10 if the aggregate compression ratio exceeds the first threshold, the compression
11 performance satisfying the predetermined compression criteria.

1 17. (Unchanged) The product of claim 16, the selection of a group of the received data
2 records in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data
3 records in a fixed window.

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18. (Unchanged) The product of claim 16, the selection of a group of the received data records in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data records in a running window.

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Please cancel claims 19 and 20.

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~~21~~. (Amended) The product of claim [20] ¹⁰~~12~~, the termination of compression for subsequent data records further comprising:
storing uncompressed data records received during termination of compression.

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~~22~~. (Amended) The product of claim [20] ¹⁰~~12~~, the resumption of compression after satisfaction of a predetermined skip criteria comprising:
resuming compression of subsequent data records after storage of a predetermined number of uncompressed data records.

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(Amended) A data storage subsystem, comprising:
a storage unit to store digital data blocks;
a storage controller, coupled to the storage unit, and programmed to conduct a data
compression process, the process comprising:
receiving multiple input data blocks for storage in a data storage subsystem;
applying a predetermined compression process to each of the received data
blocks individually;
evaluating application of the predetermined compression process according
to user adjustable and programmable compression criteria; and
if the compression fails to satisfy the predetermined compression criteria,
ceasing compression of future data blocks until satisfaction of a
predetermined skip criteria comprising the expiration of a
predetermined time, then resuming application of the predetermined
compression process.

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(Amended) The subsystem of claim 23, [the predetermined compression process
being performed individually on each of the received data blocks,] the evaluating of
application of the predetermined compression process according to a predetermined
compression criteria comprising:
selecting a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined
selection criteria;
for each data blocks in the select group, determining a compression ratio between (1)
the data block's size after application of the predetermined compression
process, and (2) the data block's size prior to application of the predetermined
compression process, and

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11 for the selected group of received data blocks, determining how many data blocks
12 have a compression ratio greater than a first threshold; and
13 if the number of data blocks having a compression ratio greater than the first
14 threshold exceeds a second threshold, the compression satisfying the user
15 adjustable and programmable compression criteria.

1 25. (Unchanged) The subsystem of claim 24, the selection of a group of the received
2 data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of
3 data blocks in a fixed window.

1 26. ²² (Unchanged) The subsystem of claim 24, the selection of a group of the received
2 data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of
3 data blocks in a running window.

1 27. (Unchanged) The subsystem of claim 23, the evaluating of application of the
2 predetermined compression process according to a predetermined compression criteria
3 comprising:

4 selecting a group of received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined
5 selection criteria;

6 for all received data blocks in the selected group, determining an aggregate
7 compression ratio between (1) the aggregate size of the data blocks after
8 application of the predetermined compression process, and (2) the aggregate
9 size of the data blocks prior to application of the predetermined compression
10 process, and

11 determining whether the aggregate compression ratio exceeds a first threshold; and

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if the aggregate compression ratio exceeds the first threshold, the compression satisfying the user adjustable and programmable compression criteria.

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28. (Unchanged) The subsystem of claim 27, the selection of a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data blocks in a fixed window.

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29. (Unchanged) The subsystem of claim 27, the selection of a group of the received data blocks in accordance with a predetermined selection criteria comprising selection of data blocks in a running window.

✓ Please cancel claims 30 and 31.

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32. (Amended) The subsystem of claim [31] ¹⁹~~22~~, the termination of application of the predetermined compression process further comprising:
storing uncompressed data items received during cessation of compression.

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33. (Amended) The subsystem of claim [31] ¹⁹~~22~~, the resumption of application of the predetermined compression process after satisfaction of a predetermined skip criteria comprising:

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resuming application of the predetermined compression process after storage of a predetermined number of uncompressed data items.

✓ Please cancel claim 34 without prejudice.